

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Currently amended) A method of Wilms' tumor diagnosis or cancer prognosis in a subject ~~diagnosed with a Wilms' tumour cancer~~, the method comprising:

determining the ~~differentially methylated~~ methylation state of a ~~specific~~ nucleotide sequence or sequences comprising the WT1 antisense regulatory region (ARR) and/or WT1 negative regulatory element (NRE) in the subject, or in a sample derived from the subject and concluding therefrom the presence or absence of Wilms' tumour and/or prognosis of cancer in the subject based on the determined methylation state.

8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Currently amended) A method of determining cancer prognosis in a subject, the method comprising determining the methylation state of a nucleotide sequence or sequences comprising the WT1 antisense regulatory region (ARR) and/or WT1 negative regulatory element (NRE) in the subject, or in a sample derived from the subject and concluding therefrom the prognosis of said subject ~~A method according to claim 9 wherein hypermethylation of the NRE or ARR indicates that the subject has a positive long term recovery prognosis, and hypomethylation of the NRE or ARR indicating indicates that the subject is predisposed to relapsing after treatment.~~
~~indicates that the subject has a positive long term recovery prognosis, and hypermethylation of the specific nucleotide sequence or sequences indicates that the subject is predisposed to relapsing after treatment the presence of Wilms' tumour.~~
11. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 7 ~~or 9~~, wherein hypomethylation of the ~~specific~~ said nucleotide sequence or sequences indicates ~~that the subject has a positive long term recovery prognosis, and hypermethylation of the specific nucleotide sequence or sequences indicates that the subject is predisposed to relapsing after treatment the presence of Wilms' tumour.~~

12. (Currently amended) A method of Wilms' tumour diagnosis and/or prognosis in a subject, A method according to any one of claims 7 to 11 the method comprising determining the methylation state of wherein the a WT1 NRE is a nucleotide sequence according to any one of claim 1 to 6 comprising SEQ ID NO: 8 or 9 and concluding therefrom on the presence or absence of Wilms' tumour and/or prognosis thereof.

13.(Canceled)

14.(Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) A method of Wilms' tumour diagnosis and/or cancer prognosis in a subject the method comprising determining the methylation state of a WT1 NRE or ARR by means of A method according to any one of claims 7 to 12 wherein the methylation state is detected using a PCR-based assay system and concluding therefrom on the presence or absence of Wilms' tumour and/or prognosis thereof.

16. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 15 wherein the PCR assay system uses at least one of the following primers to amplify a region of nucleotide sequence:

Tf: 5'-GGGTGGAGAAGAAGGATATTTAT-3'(SEQ ID NO: 1);

Tr: 5'-TAAATATCAAATTAATTCTCATCC-3'(SEQ ID NO: 2);

TfN: 5'-GATATATTTATTAGTTGGT-3' (SEQ ID NO: 3; nested primer);

TrN: 5'-AAACCCCTATAATTACCCCTCTTC-3' (SEQ ID NO: 4; nested primer).

17. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 16 wherein the amplified nucleotide sequence is cloned and sequenced.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) A diagnostic kit, assay, or probe comprising, or a monitoring method using, a nucleotide sequence comprising SEQ ID NO: 8 or 9 according to any one of claims 1 to 6 or a probe according to claim 18.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) A method ~~according to claim 22 of~~ Wilms' tumour detection in a subject or in a sample isolated from the subject comprising detection of the methylation state of a specific nucleotide sequence or sequences comprising the WT1 antisense regulatory region (ARR) and/or WT1 negative regulatory element (NRE) and concluding therefrom on the presence or absence of cancer wherein hypomethylation of the specific nucleotide sequence or sequences indicates the presence of cancer cells in the subject.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31.(Canceled)

32. (Canceled)

33. (Canceled)

34. (Canceled)

35. (Canceled)

36. (Canceled)

37. (Canceled)

38. (Canceled)